AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-8. (Canceled)

9. **(New)** A high-pressure pump for a fuel injection device of an internal combustion engine, the pump comprising,

at least one pump element, which has a pump piston that defines a pump work chamber and that is driven to a reciprocating motion at least indirectly by a drive shaft counter to force of a restoring spring,

a sleevelike tappet bracing the pump piston at least indirectly on the drive shaft

the restoring spring engaging at least the pump piston,

a support element inserted into the tappet, on which support element the pump piston is braced toward the drive shaft and which support element is braced at least indirectly on the drive shaft, and

the restoring spring engaging the pump piston and the tappet via a spring plate;

the spring plate being elastically deformable in the direction of motion of the pump piston such that by its elastic deformation, deviations in the position of its contact faces on the pump piston and on the tappet are compensated for.

10. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 9, wherein the tappet is kept in contact with the support element by the restoring spring.

11. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 10, wherein the tappet comprises a bearing face protruding inward into it, for the support element, with which bearing face the tappet comes to rest on the support element toward the drive shaft.

12. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 9, wherein the spring plate comprises a central region engaging the pump piston and a peripheral region engaging the tappet.

13. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 10, wherein the spring plate comprises a central region engaging the pump piston and a peripheral region engaging the tappet.

14. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 11, wherein the spring plate comprises a central region engaging the pump piston and a peripheral region engaging the tappet.

15. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 12, wherein the pump piston, on its end toward the support element, comprises a piston base of increased diameter compared to its remaining region, which piston base is engaged by the spring plate.

16. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 13, wherein the pump piston, on its end toward the support element, comprises a piston base of increased diameter compared to its remaining region, which piston base is engaged by the spring plate.

17. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 14, wherein the pump piston, on its end toward the support element, comprises a piston base of increased diameter compared to its remaining region, which piston base is engaged by the spring plate.

18. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 9, wherein the spring plate has a lesser stiffness than the restoring spring.

19. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 10, wherein the spring plate has a lesser stiffness than the restoring spring.

20. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 11, wherein the spring plate has a lesser stiffness than the restoring spring.

21. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 12, wherein the spring plate has a lesser stiffness than the restoring spring.

22. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 15, wherein the spring plate has a lesser stiffness than the restoring spring.

23. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 9, further comprising a roller which rolls on the drive shaft, the roller being rotatably supported in the support element, on its side toward the drive shaft.

24. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 10, further comprising a roller which rolls on the drive shaft, the roller being rotatably supported in the support element, on its side toward the drive shaft.

25. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 11, further comprising a roller which rolls on the drive shaft, the roller being rotatably supported in the support element, on its side toward the drive shaft.

26. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 12, further comprising a roller which rolls on the drive shaft, the roller being rotatably supported in the support element, on its side toward the drive shaft.

27. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 15, further comprising a roller which rolls on the drive shaft, the roller being rotatably supported in the support element, on its side toward the drive shaft.

28. **(New)** The high-pressure pump in accordance with claim 23, further comprising a wear guard layer on the support element at least in the region of the bearing of the roller.